

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1 1. (previously presented) A method of making an
2 elongated structural component having regions of different
3 thicknesses along a length thereof matched to different loads
4 adapted to be applied to said component, the method comprising the
5 steps of sequentially:

6 (a) rolling flexible metal strip so as to form along a
7 length thereof rolled strip segments of different wall thickness;

8 (b) cutting from the flexible rolled strip sheet bars
9 having regions of the different wall thicknesses formed by rolling
10 in step (a) and matched to different loads to be applied to the
11 component;

12 **(b') providing in said strip at thinner segments thereof**
13 **corrugations compensating for thickness differences in said strip**
14 **and facilitating stacking thereof;**

 (c) reshaping each sheet bar cut from the rolled strip in
step (b) to a final configuration of the respective structural
component in at least one forming step in at least one hot-forming
tool; and

 (d) hardening the respective reshaped sheet bar thereof
in the respective hot-forming tool.

1 2. (previously presented) The method defined in claim
2 1, further comprising the steps of:

3 marking positions of strip segments of different wall
4 thicknesses prior to cutting step (b); and
5 in cutting step (b) positioning a cut contour precisely
6 using the positions marked on the strip.

7 3 - 5. (canceled)